



**County Administrative Office**  
**Governmental & Legislative Affairs**

**Josh Candelaria**  
Director

April 6, 2018

The Honorable Dr. Joaquin Arambula  
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Adult Protective Services - Home Safe**

Dear Assemblyman Arambula:

The County of San Bernardino respectfully requests your support to provide \$15 million state General Fund on a one-time basis to establish Home Safe, a homelessness prevention demonstration grant program for victims of elder abuse and neglect served by county-run Adult Protective Services (APS). The proposed one time appropriation would allow participating counties to provide short-term housing crisis intervention in order to reduce the incidence and risk of homelessness among California's elderly.

Our county has experienced steady growth in reported abuse and neglect of seniors, and the number is rising as the population ages. Many of these victims are at risk of losing their housing as a direct result of suffering abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

The consequences of homelessness among older adults are dire and costly. Research shows homeless adults are at higher risk of chronic health problems—such as diabetes, lung disease, and cognitive impairment—and are likely to die decades earlier than those who are housed. For many victims, the health hardships of homelessness exacerbate the physical and emotional wounds of abuse and neglect, leading to expensive emergency room visits and accelerated entry into nursing home care. Home Safe is a critical step towards ending elder homelessness.

Home Safe would allow our county APS program to identify clients at risk of losing their homes and provide housing and supportive services, such as short term rental and utility assistance, heavy cleaning, immediate mental health treatment, and intensive case management to ensure clients are able to maintain their homes. These essential crisis intervention services would make certain that our clients have every resource available to recover, rebuild, and find safety in their homes after experiencing abuse and neglect.

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APS – Home Safe

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For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino supports the request for a \$15 million one-time funding augmentation to the APS program. Should you have any questions about the County's position, please feel free to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs, at [jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov](mailto:jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov) or 909 387-4821.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert A. Lovingood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" being more prominent than the last name "Lovingood".

Robert A. Lovingood  
First District Supervisor  
Chairman, San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors

c: Members and Consultants, Assembly Budget Subcommittee 1 on Health and Human Services  
San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation